ACNOA - ANOCA



"THANK YOU, PRESIDENT BACH, FOR BELIEVING IN AFRICA"

On behalf of ANOCA, we wish to pay a special tribute to President Thomas BACH for his unwavering support to the African Olympic Movement during his twelve-year tenure.

On behalf of all African NOCs, volunteers, our athletes, our officials, our hopefuls, we heartily say: Thank you, President Thomas BACH, for believing in Africa and for giving her the means to believe in herself. We are honoured by your actions, inspired by your track record, and committed by your legacy.



VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

President BACH, you demonstrated your visionary leadership by working to promote sport and Olympic values in Africa. Your commitment to sport development on the continent was exemplary, and helped drive significant progress. Your tangible actions were the hallmark of your leadership and results followed without any speculation.

Like a devoted soldier working tireless for a noble cause and hungry for victory, you were elected Honorary IOC President after twelve years as President. Thanks to your vision, the continuity of the Games is assured, and the Olympic Movement has been elevated to the rank of leading player for tolerance, solidarity, development and peace, despite the contrasting geopolitical situations around the world.



Thanks to your great wisdom, Olympic Agenda 2020+5 has been a landmark for the entire African Olympic Movement in particular, and the global Olympic Movement in general. Your actions can be summed up in two words: credibility and solidity.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT

ANOCA is grateful for your unwavering support for our National Olympic Committees. You understood the needs and challenges of our various countries and designed programmes to enhance our development. You will certainly be present in Dakar 2026 to celebrate the Youth Olympic Games, a major competition you worked hard for it to be organised in Africa. You wanted it and Africa got it, which symbolises your trust in our continent.



TANGIBLE OUTCOMES

Sport development in Africa has made giant strides thanks to your leadership. Olympic Solidarity programmes help train coaches and athletes, build sports infrastructure and promote Olympic values.

African athletes took part in the Olympic Games unperturbed, because you made the Olympic Games a haven of solidarity and peace. You achieved parity between male and female athletes. This success has had a ripple effect throughout the Olympic world, as women are now entrusted with greater responsibilities in sports management and the promotion of Olympism.

The IOC now has observer status within the UN, after pushing for the recognition and adoption, by the UN General Assembly, of the unique power of sport in peacebuilding. To this end, you initiated the '*Olympism 365*' strategy, to which several partners and donors have signed up.

LASTING LEGACY

President BACH, you have bequeathed to the African Olympic Movement a lasting legacy. Your commitment to sport and Olympic values will have a positive impact on future generations of African sportsmen/women and leaders.

A major legacy you are bequeathing to us is the newly elected IOC President, Kirsty Coventry, the first woman to head the IOC, the first African, all thanks to you. This is indeed an honour for the African Olympic and Sports Movement.

THANK YOU, PRESIDENT THOMAS BACH

On behalf of ANOCA, I wish to convey our gratitude and admiration for your leadership and vision, which have contributed to shaping the future of Africa for years to come.

Mustapha Berraf

ANOCA President
IOC Member
ANOC Vice President
President of the Olympafrica Foundation